DASARA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF 1904.

GENERAL SUBJECTS.

LEGISLATION.

Subject No. 1.

Establishment of the Legislative Council or a Standing Committee.

Messrs. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, M. C. Ranga Iyengar, Madappa, and Anantarajaiya, the Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—It is requested that a Legislative Council may be established in Mysore.

Mr. Venkatakrishnaiya.—"There are Legislative Councils in the British Provinces, and there is one in Travancore. In Mysore, we have the Representative Assembly, but it holds its session only annually for a few days. On the other hand, a Legislative Council will meet more often and the members of the Representative Assembly who may be in the Council will thus have frequent opportunities of representing the wants of the people. The subject was brought forward in 1892 by Mr. Srinivasa Rao, but while replying that there was no need for one, the late Dewan, at the same time suggested the formation of a Standing Committee. As remarked by Mr. Rangacharlu, political education can only be gradual. If we are to wait until all the people are educated to the requisite standard, we may have to wait for ever. If a Legislative Council cannot be immediately established it is desirable that at least a Standing Committee should be recognized."

Reply of Government.—This is an important question requiring very careful consideration, although not a new subject.

Subject No. 2.

Introduction of certain Acts.

Mr. J. C. S. Lawrence, B. A., L.L.B., of Bangalore.
" Keladi Venkappa.
" Graham Anderson, C.I.E.

Summary of discussion.—Suggest that the following Acts be introduced in Mysore:—

1. The Hindu Wills Act, XXI of 1870.
2. The Probate and Administration Act, V of 1881.
3. The Negotiable Instruments Act, XXVI of 1881.
4. Certain portions of the Transfer of Property Act, IV of 1882, with their respective amending Acts.
5. Madras Labour Act.
6. Guardian and Ward Act.

Mr. Lawrence began by thanking the Government for having recognized the Law Association and permitted it to send a representative. He then referred to the desirability of introducing the Hindu Wills Act and the Probate

and Administration Act. Hindu gentlemen were now generally in the habit of making wills and the Acts would be useful. He referred to a case where a party went to Madras to prove a will, but failed for want of jurisdiction on the part of the courts there. The introduction of the Negotiable Instruments Act would be a help to merchants, as the remedy provided was quicker, and as the experience of Madras shewed that it was a useful measure. The intricate portions of the Transfer of Property Act might be eliminated and the provisions regarding leases, mortgages and sales might be adopted with advantage. Similarly the Madras Labour Act also might be introduced.

Mr. Graham Anderson, C.I.E., said that the Planters' Associations did not want the Labour Act and they left the matter entirely in the hands of Government (*vide* Appendix D 1).

Reply of Government.—The Government will gladly welcome the opinion of a learned Association like that of the Law Association on matters relating to the public welfare. As to the Labour Act the Government will wait till the planters feel the necessity for it. Even then a committee will be appointed with one or two of their representatives on it to consider the scope of the Act. The Government were not at all in a hurry about it.

Regarding the other Acts the matter will receive attention if actual cases are quoted where the courts exercise jurisdiction irrespective of the Acts and where hardship has been felt.

Subject No. 3.

Introduction of the Rent Recovery Act, No. VIII of 1865, into Mysore.

Mr. Srinivasa Rao of Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It being almost impossible for inamdars and superior holders of lands to recover rents due from inferior holders by resorting to the Civil Courts, it is prayed that Act No. VIII of 1865, now in force in the Madras Presidency, may be introduced into the Mysore State.

Reply of Government.—The Revenue Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners of Districts are of opinion that no further facilities beyond those contained in Section 97 of the Land Revenue Code are necessary. This Section allows inamdars to recover without recourse to Law Courts one year's dues from their tenants. It is open to the inamdars to prevent accumulations for more than a year by taking timely measures. Let actual instances of hardship be brought to the notice of Government, then the remedy will be considered.

Subject No. 4.

Act No. VIII of 1859 now in force in the Madras Presidency to be brought into force in the Mysore Province.

Messrs. Guru Rao, Padmanna and Chendrasekharaiya of Nanjangud Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Act No. VIII of 1859, now in force in the Madras Presidency, may be introduced into the Mysore Province.

* *Note.*—This Mr. Guru Rao explains as referring to Act VIII of 1865.

Reply of Government.—*Vide* Subject No. 3.